

(Washington, D.C.) –U.S. Representative Chet Edwards released the following statement on the award of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) today at the U.S. Capitol:

“The Women Airforce Service Pilots are aviation pioneers as the first women in history to fly American military aircraft. The service and sacrifice of dedicated Americans like Deanie Parrish of Waco and Catherine Chatham of Bryan is important to the history of America and important to the history of women in our military. They deserve our nation’s respect and full support.

“For far too long, history has neglected the valuable contributions of the WASPs during World War II. Last year, I was proud to recognize the outstanding service of these dedicated American women and support awarding them the Congressional Gold Medal, a well-deserved honor that is long overdue.”

Edwards represents District 17 in Congress.